IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the abstract with:

The present invention is directed to a system in which a semantic space is searched in order to determine the semantic distance between two locations. A further aspect of the present invention provides a system in which a portion of semantic space is purchased and associated with a target data set element which is returned in response to a search input. The semantic space is created by a lexicon of concepts and relations between concepts. An input is associated with a location in the semantic space. Similarly, each data element in the target data set being searched is associated with a location in the semantic space. Searching is accomplished by determining a semantic distance between the first and second location in semantic space, wherein this distance represents their closeness in meaning and where the cost for retrieval of target data elements is based on this distance.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-15.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended)   A method comprising:

   determining a first semantic sub-space within a semantic space in response to an input query; and

   displaying one or more documents positioned within said first semantic sub-space if any documents are contained therein;

   wherein said documents are displayed according to the closeness in meaning to said input query and organized according to a monetary value assigned to the position of the documents in said semantic sub-space relative to said input query.

Please add new claims 16-71 as follows:

16. A method comprising:

   organizing concepts according to their meaning into a lexicon, said lexicon defining elements of a semantic space;

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